

### Abstract

A method of operating a data transmission network (10) is described comprising at least two outer rings (11, 13) and  
5 a middle ring (12) which are coupled to one another via nodes (14, 15, 16). One of the nodes (14) represents a central node for all three rings (11, 12, 13). Switching devices (23, 24, 25, 26) for the establishment of connections are contained in each of the nodes (14,  
10 15, 16). It is recognized that a connection is to be established from the one outer ring (11, 13) to the other outer ring (13, 11) via the middle ring (12). Then the connection is established taking into account all three rings (11, 12, 13).

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(Figure 3)